



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT		50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Troops and Military Equipment Observed at the 9 September Parade in Sofia	DATE DISTR.	18 November 1953	
		NO. OF PAGES	5	
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	50X1-HUM
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		

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1. The following troops and military units on foot participated in the 9 September parade in Sofia:
 - a. The flag of the Rakovski Military Academy, followed by Lt. General Dyko Dykov and two high ranking officers leading six groups of officers (600 men), of whom 300 were infantry, 200 were artillery and engineers, and 100 were air force officers;
 - b. Military academies and schools as follows:
 - (1) The flag of the Vasil Levski Military Academy;
 - (2) 600 student officers of the regular infantry, from the Vasil Levski Academy;
 - (3) 300 students of the Suvorov Military School;
 - (4) 100 students of the Nakhimov Naval School;
 - (5) 100 student officers of the regular Army, from the Vaptsarov Naval Academy;
 - (6) 100 students of the regular Army Air Force;
 - (7) 100 student officers of the regular Army artillery and engineers, from the Vasil Levski Academy;
 - (8) 100 student officers from security units; and
 - (9) 200 student officers from the Border Guards;

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- c. Border Guards: 100 men;
 - d. Security troops: 500 men; and
 - e. An infantry guards regiment, with flag (bearing the number 3 or 5, not clearly legible), composed of three battalions each consisting of three groups of 100 men, for a total of 900 men.
2. The total number of troops on foot was divided as follows:
- a. 600 officers from the War School;
 - b. 1,200 student officers from military academies;
 - c. 400 students from military schools;
 - d. 1,500 regular troops; and
 - e. 100 cadre officers from the units listed above.
3. A total of 100 men on horse-back took part in the review. The men wore their parade uniforms and formed two half squadrons of 48 men each (lined up in six rows of eight men, with four officers).
4. A motorized infantry regiment, preceded by a jeep, with flag, took part in the parade and was composed of three battalions each including the following:
- a. A Soviet jeep, for the commander;
 - b. 14 Molotov medium sized trucks with 16 men per truck and one officer and a driver in the cab; and
 - c. Six Molotov medium trucks each with a 12.7 mm. Degtyarev heavy antiaircraft machine gun mounted on a tripod.
5. The total number of motorized troops and equipment in this regiment was divided as follows:
- a. 64 officers;
 - b. 820 troops;
 - c. 18 heavy antiaircraft machine guns, 12.7 caliber;
 - d. 60 Molotov medium trucks; and
 - e. Four GAZ jeeps.
6. An artillery regiment, preceded by a jeep with flag, was composed as follows:
- a. An antiaircraft artillery group, 37 mm, 1939 model (12 ZIS-150 medium trucks).

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were each drawing an artillery piece);

- b. An 85 mm. 1939 model antiaircraft artillery group (10 pieces drawn by ZIS-150 medium trucks); and
 - c. A group of 120 mm. 1938 model heavy mortars (12 mortars drawn by 12 Molotov medium trucks).
7. Each artillery group was preceded by its respective commander in a jeep. The total number of troops and equipment in the artillery regiment were as follows:
- a. 34 officers;
 - b. 520 troops;
 - c. 12 Bofors type, 37 mm., 1939 model antiaircraft cannons.
 - d. Ten 85 mm., model 1939 antiaircraft cannon;
 - e. Twelve 120 mm. heavy mortars;
 - f. 22 ZIS-150 medium trucks;
 - g. 12 Molotov medium trucks (GAZ-51); and
 - h. 4 GAZ jeeps.
8. A second artillery regiment, preceded by a jeep with flag was composed as follows:
- a. Two groups of 76.2 mm. antitank cannon, with gun muzzle, model 1941 or 1942; each piece was drawn by a GAZ-63 model truck;
 - b. A group of 122 mm., 1938 model field howitzers, drawn by ZIS-150 medium trucks; and
 - c. One group of 12 rocket launchers loaded on special ZIS-151 trucks of the standard, model 8, 82 caliber, 48 rockets type.
9. This artillery regiment was composed of the following troops and equipment:
- a. 40 officers;
 - b. 510 men;
 - c. 24 antitank guns, 76.2 mm., model 1938;
 - d. 12 model 1938, 122 mm. howitzers;
 - e. 12 rocket launchers, model 8;

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- f. Five GAZ jeeps;
 - g. 24 GAZ-63 medium trucks;
 - h. 12 ZIS-150 medium trucks; and
 - i. 12 special trucks for launching rockets.
10. A group of 122 mm. model 1931 cannon, without gun muzzle, drawn by Tatra heavy trucks. This group included the following troops and equipment:
- a. 10 officers;
 - b. 140 trucks;
 - c. Eight 122 mm., model 1931 cannons;
 - d. Eight Tatra (Czech) heavy trucks; and
 - e. One GAZ jeep.
11. A group of 152 mm. howitzers, with gun muzzle, modified 1937 model drawn by Tatra heavy trucks. This group included the following troops and equipment:
- a. 10 officers;
 - b. 140 trucks;
 - c. Eight howitzers, 152 mm., model 1937;
 - d. Eight Tatra heavy trucks; and
 - e. One GAZ jeep.
12. Armored equipment was observed as follows:
- a. One jeep, with flag;
 - b. 10 BMW motorcycles with a machine gun in the side car;
 - c. Five BA-64 light armored cars;
 - d. Five SU-76 self-propelled artillery pieces with 76.2 mm. cannons;
 - e. 35 T-34-85 medium tanks; and
 - f. Two T-34 tow trucks.
13. Half way through the parade 24 single-wing jet fighters, in flights of three, flew over Sofia. These planes were of the YAK-23 type with the exhaust located under the fuselage.

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14. Total personnel and equipment taking part in the parade in 1953 was slightly lower than that of 1952, as shown by the following figures:

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Men (including officers)	6,460	6,700
Horses	100	100
Artillery pieces	74	84
120 mm. mortars	12	12
Rocket launchers	12	12
Antiaircraft heavy machine guns	18	24
Light reconnaissance armored cars	5	0
T-34-85 medium tanks	35	40
SU-76 self-propelled guns	5	0
Medium and heavy trucks	146	132
Jeeps	16	15
Motorcycles with side cars	10	0

15. It should be noted that for the first time the following equipment was shown to the public:

- a. The Soviet light reconnaissance armored car, model BA-64;
- b. The Soviet SU-76 self-propelled gun;
- c. The German BMW motorcycle, with side car; and
- d. The Czech Tatra heavy truck.

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